UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/72
25 January 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 23 JANUARY 1999 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft continued between 1 and 15 January 1999 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Violations and damage caused, 1-15 January 1999

1. In the northern region 128 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 5,000 to 14,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah, Zakho, Kifri, Rawanduz, Baibo and Kalak.

2. In the southern region 405 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 16,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Basrah, Maymunah, Rifa'i, Kut, Mu'aniyah, Amarah, Umm Qasr, Safwan, Qal'at Salih, Lasaf, Qal'at Sukkar, Ali al-Sharqi, Diwaniyah, Islah, Hawr al-Hammar, Madinah, Ansab and Nukhayb.

3. At 0814 hours on 2 January 1999 a United States AWACS aircraft violated Iraqi airspace. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and forced it to withdraw inside Saudi territory in the Duraytima area. At 0925 hours on the same day a United States AWACS aircraft again violated Iraqi airspace. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and forced it to withdraw inside Saudi territory.

4. At 1112 hours on 2 January 1999 a formation of United States F-16 aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Qal'at Salih area. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove it off.

5. At 0925 hours on 3 January 1999 a United States AWACS aircraft violated Iraqi airspace.

6. At 0932 hours on 3 January 1999 three formations of United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

7. On 6 January 1999 a United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace south of the 33rd parallel. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove it off.

8. At 0933, 1550 and 1610 hours on 7 January 1999 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Umm Qasr area.

9. At 1125 hours on 7 January 1999 a formation of United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in Ninawa Governorate. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

10. At 0955 hours on 8 January 1999 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Faw area.

11. At 1135 hours on 11 January a formation of United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in Ninawa Governorate and fired two missiles. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

12. At 1235 hours on 11 January 1999 three formations of United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in Ninawa Governorate and fired one missile. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft.

13. On the morning of 13 January 1999 a formation of United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace 10 kilometres south of the 36th parallel.

14. At 1045 hours on 13 January 1999 a formation of United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Salman area and dropped heat flares. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

15. At 1035 hours on 13 January 1999 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the area north of Mosul and fired one missile. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

16. At 1121 hours on 13 January 1999 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Ayn Zalah area of Ninawa Governorate and fired one missile. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

17. At 1134 and 1142 hours on 13 January 1999 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Mosul area.

18. At 1135 hours on 14 January 1999 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Lasaf area of Najaf Governorate.

19. At 1218 hours on 14 January 1999 United States aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in Ninawa Governorate and fired one round and one missile. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.